

CLAIMS

- 1 A chicken astrovirus type 2 (CAstV-2), characterised in that the virus is the CAstV deposited under accession no. I-2932 at the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes (CNCM) of the Institute Pasteur, Paris, France or an immunological related CAstV that is able to induce antiserum that neutralises the deposited virus.
- 2 A cell culture infected with a CastV-2 according to claim 1.
- 3 A cell culture according to claim 2, characterised in that the cell culture is a chicken embryo liver (CEL) cell culture.
- 4 A vaccine for use in the protection of poultry against disease caused by avian astrovirus infection, characterised in that the vaccine comprises a CastV-2 according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.
- 5 A vaccine according to claim 4, characterised in the CastV-2 is in a live attenuated form.
- 6 A vaccine according to claims 4 or 5, characterised in that the vaccine further comprises one or more vaccine components of other pathogens infectious to poultry.
- 7 A vaccine according to claims 4-6, characterised in that the vaccine comprises an adjuvant.
- 8 A method for the preparation of CastV-2 antigen material, characterised in that the CastV-2 according to claim 1 is propagated in a cell culture and subsequently harvested from the cell culture.
- 9 A method for the preparation of a vaccine according to claims 4-7, characterised in that the CastV-2 according to claim 1 is mixed with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent.

10 A method for the protection of poultry, in particular chicken, against disease caused by avian astrovirus infection, characterised in that the vaccine according to claims 4-7 is administered to the animals.